-WARNING-

MATURE CONTENT

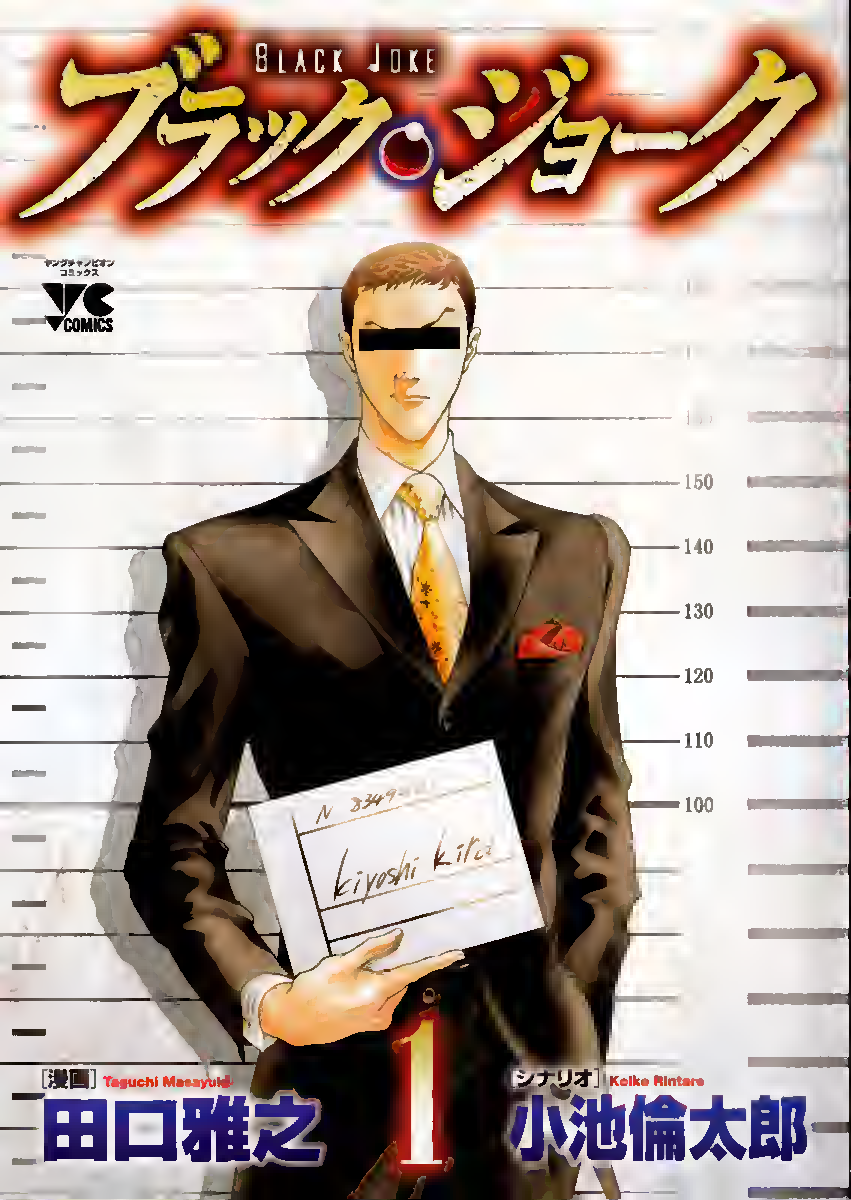
PARENTAL APPROVAL

BLACK JOKE

ブラック・ジョーク

ヤングチャンピオン コミックス

YC COMICS



[漫画] Taguchi Masayuki

田口雅之

1

[シナリオ] Keiko Rintaro

小池倫太郎

ブラック・ジョーク 1

田口雅之 [漫画]
小池倫太郎 [シナリオ]

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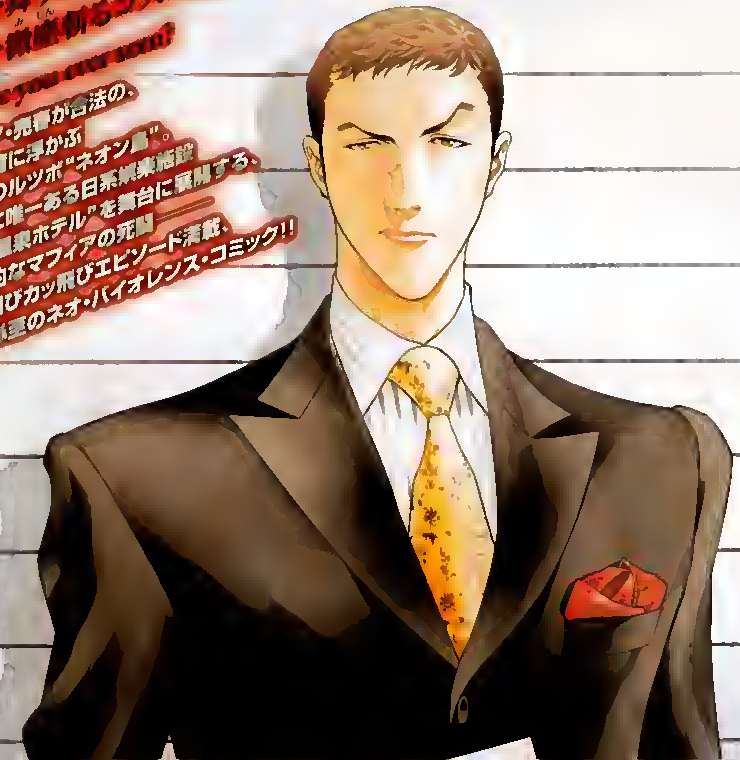
空を切り裂くナイフのマジック…
最年少殺戮者ゴスロリ少女…
Have you ever seen?

カジノ・犯罪が合法の、
東京湾に浮かぶ
"ネオン島"。
沈黙のルツボ"ネオン島"。
そこに唯一ある日系娯楽施設
"TO温泉ホテル"を舞台に展開する、
驚異的なマフィアの死闘
ブッ飛びカッ飛び工ピソード満載、
中華風味のネオ・バイオレンス・コミック!!



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1
BLACK JOKE
ブラック・ジョーク
ヤングチャンピオン コミックス
YC COMICS

CONTENTS

BLACK JOKE vol.1
comic Taguchi Masayuki
scenario Koiko Rintaro

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この作品はフィクションであり、実在の人物・団体等に、いっさい関係ありません。

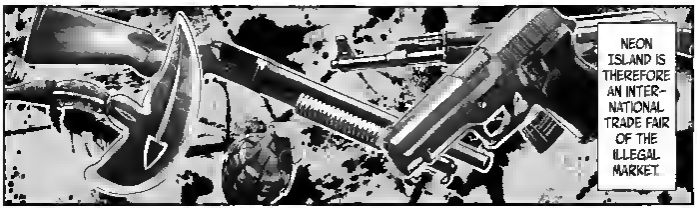
NOTHIN' BUT WHOPPERS!
MACKEREL, SEA-EELS, WHITING, FLOUNDER...
YER RIGHT
FER SOME YEARS NOW, YA ONLY FIND BIG FISH IN THIS TOKYO BAY
.....
IT'S PROBABLY SINCE NEON ISLAND APPEARED

CHAPTER 1: ODOR

BLACK JOKE

ON THE OTHER HAND, AN ARTIFICIAL ISLAND WAS CREATED IN TOKYO BAY..
FOLLOWING THE MAYOR'S CONSERVATIVE REFORMS, ALL SERVICES RELATED TO PROSTITUTION WERE BANNED IN THE CAPITAL...
JAPAN, 51ST STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOKYO CITY...
NEON ISLAND
A SPECIAL TERRITORY WHERE GAMBLING AND PROSTITUTION ARE LEGAL...
MORE POPULAR THAN LAS VEGAS, THIS AMUSEMENT PARK FOR ADULTS HAS BECOME A VERITABLE TOURIST DESTINATION.
CASINOS, CABARETS, NIGHT CLUBS, COMMERCIAL CENTERS, DELUXE HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, DOG RACING, ETC.

HISPANICS,
AND ALSO AFRICANS ...
SICILIANS, CHINESE, RUSSIANS...
ILLICIT ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO PREVALENT ...


NEON ISLAND IS THEREFORE AN INTER-NATIONAL TRADE FAIR OF THE ILLEGAL MARKET.

IT ONLY RAINS BLOOD...
ON THIS ISLAND WHERE CHAOS REIGNS...

HOTEL CASINO ONSEN.
We have a problem in the basement in the VIP room.
!
What's up?
Mr. Kira...
KIYOSHI KIRA
(28 YEARS OLD)
Alright.
.....

C'mon take it all down!
Don't miss any!
That's it darlin'
!

Sorry to interrupt you gentlemen but it's our closing time

Please leave

WHO D'YA THINK YER TALKIN' TO?!
WHO DA FUCK ARE YOU, HUH?!

DOJI KODAMA
(2? YEARS OLD)

Koda-ma.
Your turn.

YER GONNA DIE!!

UGH...
!!

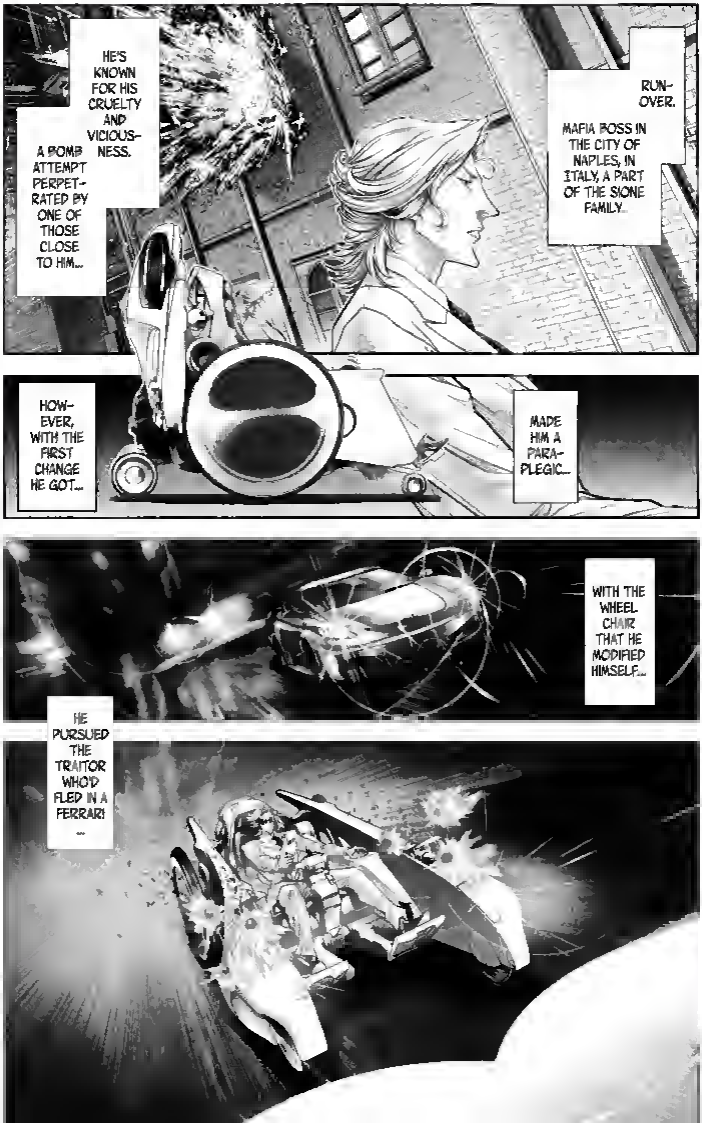
Which one of 'em do I leave breathin...
As a warnin'?
KODAMA HAS VERY THICK FINGERS..
SO, HIS GUN HAS BEEN ADAP-TED...
IN A WAY THAT HE CAN PULL THE TRIGGER WITHOUT SQUEEZING HIS FINGER.
What do you mean which one ..?
ON THE ONE HAND, HE'S VERY NIMBLE-FINGERED HE CAN LAUNCH LIGHTNING-FAST ATTACKS...
You killed them all except him...
BUT ONCE HE STARTS, NOTHING CAN STOP HIM.
!
IN SHORT ..
Think of the person who'll do the cleaning!
HE'S A MAN OF AMBI-GUOUS CHARA-CTER..

Kira, don't cha find there're a lot of customers comin' from Kansai* lately?
Since the region wasn't able to set up on Neon Island they want to integrate at all costs...
They believe everything goes because they're Japanese like us...
Pfft!

*REGION COMPRISED OF THE PREFECTURES OF OSAKA, KYOTO, NARA, HYOGO, SHIGA, AND WAKAYAMA.

I'll be right there
Yes
You know though.
Among Japanese organizations
The boss
Who was it?
!!
げっ
From other states...
We're the only ones who can compete with the Mafia...

Runover ...!
It's
You get-ting out ..
Or not?
.....
RUNOVER
(31 YEARS OLD)
How scary !
Yes.. ple-ase
Ah...


RUN-OVER.
MAFIA BOSS IN THE CITY OF NAPLES, IN ITALY, A PART OF THE SIONE FAMILY..
HE'S KNOWN FOR HIS CRUELTY AND VICIOUS-NESS.
A BOMB ATTEMPT PERPET-RATED BY ONE OF THOSE CLOSE TO HIM...
MADE HIM A PARA-PLEGIC...
HOW-EVER, WITH THE FIRST CHANGE HE GOT...
WITH THE WHEEL CHAIR THAT HE MODIFIED HIMSELF...
HE PURSUED THE TRAITOR WHO'D FLED IN A FERRARI ...

AND ELIMINATED HIM BY RUNNING OVER HIS CAR... THAT'S WHERE HIS NICKNAME COMES FROM.
I wonder what he's doing here...

Who are they?
.....
KENSUKE TODOME
(52 YEARS OLD)
My dear Kira, I want you to take care of customers....
In room 1015
They've been in this hotel since yesterday, apparently...
Runover came to warn me in all honesty
A mole probably tipped them off to his presence here
They're hitmen who were sent to whack Runover
Why is he asking us for this?
I thought Runover was a sadist who liked killing people
They practice an ancient Thai martial art.
Salitt and Stinder are from Thailand...
SALITT PO PURAMUK
NATIONALITY: THAI
BIRTHPLACE:
STINDER GEN NORASIN

Huh?
?
!!
Odon!!
Because they have a very particular
From what I understand he especially doesn't want to approach them..
Disgusting!
It seems they put on a ton of perfume..
Even the receptionist complained.
He doesn't care if they're dead or alive ♥
Can you kidnap them and deliver them to Runover?
Say, Kira..
Why don't we go straight to their room? We got the key.
Why're we lookin' out for 'em here?!

This Thai martial art... Is it like Muay Thai?
To mess up the room.
The Boss doesn't want
Do you ever listen to what you're told?
1
...And so is their body odor.
They're pretty strong...
Apparently they've mastered different weapons.
Don't worry I'll take care of it.
!
!

ギュッ
ズズズ…
ズズズ…
ズズズ…

They aint amateurs
Very good!!
Show me what you've got.

Uh
Uh hh

Koda-
ma...
CLICK
Tie them up and put them in the back.
Let's not waste our time and head back
Pow
Pow
Pow
Pow!!
Oh no
Oh no

Even so...
Let's avoid trouble...
He can get rid of them later if he wants
That way Runover can interrogate them.
I prefer to deliver them alive...
What do these two here reek of?
ぐう
I told ya... We shoulda shot 'em!
!!

WHATEVER!
WHAT? YOU SAYIN' IT'S MY FAULT?!
I THOUGHT THE TWO OF US MADE A HELLUVA TEAM? YOU TOLD ME THAT YOURSELF!
They're pissing me off!
WHY'D YOU ACCEPT THIS JOB, THEN?!
WHAT? I DO WHAT I WANT!
Can you argue once you're dead?
'Cause the more excited you get the more the smell spreads.
Speaks Thai?!
This guy
!!

We... We're gonna die then...

Don't you think it's getting worse Kodama?
Eww w!
IT STINNNKS!!

!!
WHAA
AT?!
CLICK!
CLICK!

CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!
CLICK!
Runover doesn't care if they're dead right?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, DAMMIT?!
YOU THOUGHT THE SMELL WOULD DISAPPEAR ONCE THEY'RE DEAD?
YOU IDIOT!
CLENCH
ほ
う
Y...
PUT YOURSELF IN THE SHOES OF THE ONE WHO'LL CLEAN IT, DAMMIT!
IMBE-CILE!
WHO DO YOU THINK THIS CAR BELONGS TO?
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
And
.....

Where are they?

Here they are.
Here...

Er... Thanks

You do as tidy a job as ever...

Yes?
You were saying?
...
...
You dump your garbage in this bay too?
Yeah we do...
That's why the fish are dying..
...

Hone-stly, it's a bad joke!!
It's worse than a weasel's fart!
Even chop-ped, their odor didn't disappear...
Blagh... It stinks!

.....
What're "compo-nents"?
That'll repel them.
Rather, it's the perfume's compo-nents...
But Kira... Do fish have noses?
The fish may not eat, given the stench....

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BLACK JOKE

by KOIKE Rintarou and TAGUCHI Masayuki

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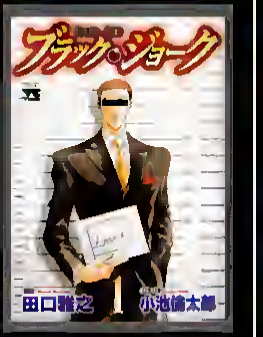

Black Joke ch 1-3

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MATURE CONTENT

PARENTAL APPROVAL

CHAPTER 2: PAIN

ONSEN HOTEL CASINO
No more bets!
.....
13 black.

Gosh I made a boo-boo...
Ah...
!!
Hey! I won!
STK
STOP! NO! AH...!
No... I assure you!
YOU WANTED TO PULL A FAST ONE ON US, THAT IT?
I invite you to replay your game.
This won't happen again...
She's still new here
I'm sorry gentlemen...
Hmm?
Kira...
Mr ...
Thanks.

I bet he will ask her out!
What time do you get off Ms. Mika?
I just finished actually
Look!
Yeah
Such a charmer... That Kira
Turn up the volume
Would you like us to dine together this evening?
Really?! Yes, with pleasure!
Good!! I'll make reservations for 7 o'clock then.
WAY TO GO KIRA!
Who's the roulette chick? I've never seen her before
She's been working here for three months.
Cute, don't you think?
Why does our hotel...
Only hire young girls who've no experience?
HEE..
EEE.

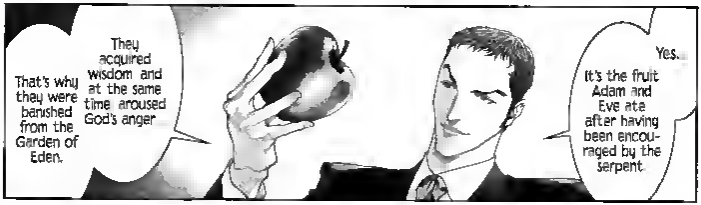
About 5% of the profits go to the casino
You know roulette* has 1 to 36 slots plus the 0 and 00--that's to say 38 slots in all..
Well no...
That ain't the case?
It's often thought that it's better to have experienced croupiers who're able to handle the ball as they please...
So?
.....
A little more than 5% of the chips automatically enter our coffers
Even if an inexperienced croupier spins the ball at random
In other words
And if occasionally some customers win big our popularity rises and that attracts other customers.
In the long run the casinos can never be losers.
That's why...
We only hire young amateur croupiers here
.....
And if, by bad luck, the croupier is accused of cheating, we'll have to close the casino!
If they know the croupier's good, they won't come back.
On the other hand...

*IN AMERICAN ROULETTE, ONE CAN BET ON SLOTS 1 TO 36, 0, AND 00—THAT'S TO SAY 38 SLOTS IN ALL. BUT WHEN THE PLAYER BETS ON A SINGLE NUMBER, HE ONLY WINS 36 TIMES THE BET. WE SPEAK THEN, OF THE HOUSE'S ADVANTAGE, OR PROFIT EXPECTANCY, WHICH IS $2/38 = 5.26\%$. IN OTHER WORDS, THE PLAYER LOSES ON AVERAGE 5.26% OF HIS BET EACH GAME TO THE CASINO.

Ah, okay I thought it was the boss's fantasy
Ehm.. Mr. Kira..
Thanks for defending me today ..
It's normal. I'm in charge of the casino so everything's my responsibility..
I'm the type who does his job properly ♥
No I'm not, contrary to what you think..
You're attractive all the same
Y know ...
I think you're charming and I trust you...
In that case...
! Huh? What are ?
I really think so

Aaa h!!
To thank you for your compli-ments.
Since when are we so close?
It's not right!
Then in order to forgive me I'll show you this little trick.

An apple?
.....

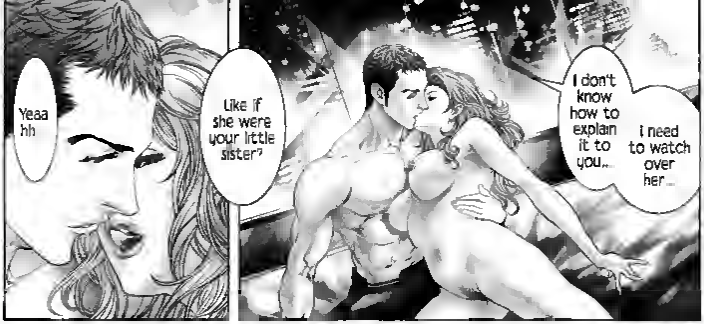

That's why they were banished from the Garden of Eden.
They acquired wisdom and at the same time aroused God's anger
Yes. It's the fruit Adam and Eve ate after having been encouraged by the serpent.

How's that?
But it's certain that since then human beings are rotten
It's sad to be punished for that...

Well now...
HAHA ... MR. KIRA... I SEE YOU LIKE TO JOKE AROUND!
Like me just now
Who wanted to steal a kiss from the lips of an innocent young girl.

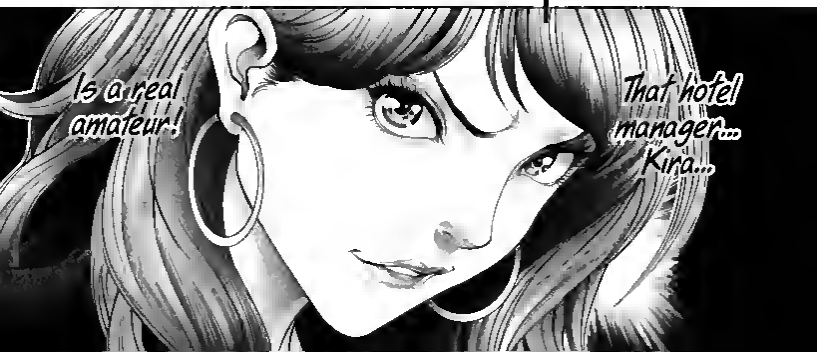
Let's see the true face...
Of this damn apple!
I'm talking about you...
WHOA! IT'S INCREDIBLE! YOU'RE SO GOOD!♡
Really...
Women are...

You're interested in that young croupier now?
...So mysterious!
It's not what you think
Tell me
You prefer young innocents like her?
.....
Let's just say that....
You're lying...



In reality that girl is...

You're the ladies expert!♥



THREE MONTHS HAVE GONE BY SINCE I STARTED WORKING AT NEON ISLAND'S..
HOTEL CASINO ONSEN.
I'VE INFILTRATED SEVERAL CASINOS AROUND THE WORLD...
BUT THIS ONE'S THE WORST OF THE LOT!
SECURITY'S REALLY WEAK...
31
TO CONTROL THE BALL AS I PLEASE...
AND SINCE I'M APLE..
UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, OUR ORGANIZATION WILL NOT PE DISCOVERED
AND THEY ONLY CHECK FOR CHEATING CUSTOMERS.

IT'S EASY TO MAKE ONE OF MY ACCOMP-LICES WIN AND SECRETLY STEAL THE HOUSE'S MONEY..
PUT A CROUPIER WHO MAKES THE CASINO LOSE MONEY CAN BE SUSPE-CTED QUICKLY...
THAT'S WHY WE DO IT IN A VERY SUBTLE WAY...
I FIRST MAKE ONE OF MY ACCOMP-LICES WIN $2000, AND THEN I MAKE THE OTHER CUSTO-MERS LOSE $2100.
THAT WAY, AS USUAL, THE CASINO ENJOYS 5% PROFITS.
EVEN IF THE TABLE REGISTER IS INSPECTED, SINCE THE HOUSE DIDN'T LOSE ANYTHING, WE CAN'T BE SUS-PECTED
THIS IS HOW WE WAIT FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO TARGET A BIGGER SUM...
To take off with all of the winnings in the end!!
Ms Mika...
!
Yes?

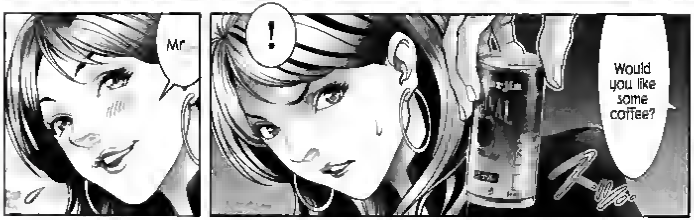
Let me introduce you Director Kin.
He's a very generous customer. He's in the habit of dropping $100 tips.
But be relaxed. Play like you usually do
Ok!

The perfect victim!

Miss, you'll let me win, okay?
A PRETENTIOUS PLAYER LIKE HIM IS THE TYPE TO BET BIG AS SOON AS YOU LOOK HIS WAY...

AT FIRST, I'LL MAKE HIM WIN...
He bet on 12 numbers in a column and 12 in the center
21 red.
No more bets!
Great! I'll bet 500 in the same spot!!
Yeah!!
TO WARM HIM UP A BIT...
C'mon!
IT'S JUST...
THIS WAY, KIN'S LOST SUM IS WON BY ONE OF MY ACCOM-PLICES.
31 red.
I'll play again!!
OH NO, I WAS SO CLOSE!
AND MY GUYS WILL BET ANYWHERE BUT ON KIN'S NUMBERS

TOO EASY!!


Mr.
!
Would you like some coffee?

I'm sorry for the other day.
Thanks a lot! ♡
Mr. Kira.

I was just surprised.
No not at all!
I hope you're not angry...
Huh?
Good then...
In any case, he'll probably never notice!
What a maron...
He didn't even notice that I was cheating...
The look you throw players is really seductive
When you spin the ball in the roulette...
Huh?
I find you're becoming a real croupier!
This evening?
Would you like to dine together again...
Doesn't he have better things to do than courting women all the time?
Yes. My heart skipped a little.
Ah, really? You think?!
Sure ♡
This type of guy...
Geez

*The term could also be translated as "rotten bitch"

28
Yes coming
Mr. Kira.
Err...
The skin of your index finger was hard...
When you touched my lip...
Huh?
First..
In other words you're far from being a beginner and you hid it for reasons that I know perfectly well
it's a callus specific to experience croupiers..
16
Yes exactly You contented yourself with tips to the house without losing miserably
Which is unnatural.
That's not the case for me
Phoo
If the ball lands more than average on the number bet upon the croupier risks being suspected..
Secondly By observing the table register

Like you can control the ball perfectly...
3rd ...
You look at players then lower your eyes...
Before spinning the ball...
B4
Because you check the place where players bet to make the ball land in your accomplices slots
That look- I liked it a lot though...
A real amateur would have spun without looking
We're here.
Uhh ...
And ...
Finally, fourthly ...
Mr_
Mr_
Mr. Kira ...
There's that sable coat...

You couldn't afford it with the salary you have.
These days, even the Russian Mafia comes to Neon Island...
To exploit our casinos...
Here's the moment of reunion.

That coat's made in Russia, right?
By the way...
Kira, these guys were screamin in Russian just now.
We just have to interrogate her about their organization.
There's still this girl left.
For
Fo...
It's no big deal.
Damn this one's dead too.
SPARE MY LIFE. I BEG YOU...
Forgive me.
Please!

Plea-
se...
For-
give
me!
Incidentally going back to the story of Adam and Eve.
Hunh
It's really a shame to lose one's innocence by acquiring wisdom...
Wait a minute
?
!!
Since when
Are we so close?
I told you
I'm the type who does his job properly.

AAAA AH!!
OWW ...

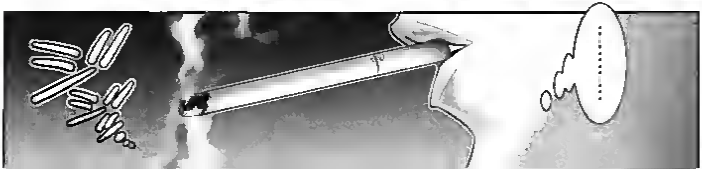
AH...
She's dead too
WHAT?!

You feelin' sorry for her Kira?

Hmm ?
?
MORON, WHY'D YOU KILL HER?

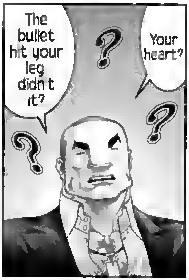
I WANTED INFO ABOUT THEIR ORGANIZATION! YOU BUTCHERED THEM ALL!
OF COURSE NOT...
YOU STUPID OR WHAT?

.....
Aaah!


.....

HUFF
HUFF

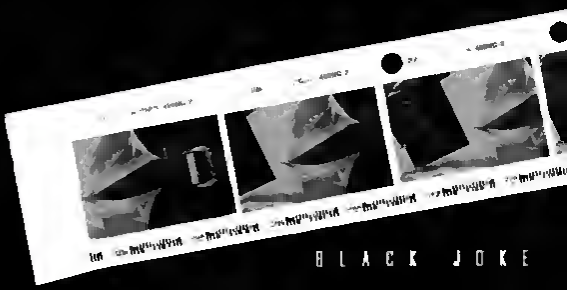
Still..


The bullet hit your leg didn't it?
Your heart?

Koda-ma...
I think my heart's slightly wounded

Why're you gettin' pissed?
Shut up!

Forget it.
?
PFT!



BLACK JOKE

-WARNING-

MATURE CONTENT

PARENTAL APPROVAL

Uh
Uhh...
CHAPTER 3
The AK* is a little cumbersome but it's a good rifle...
Thanks to its heavy breech, it almost never jams
It's even able to fire bent bullets
It's easy to use, powerful, its structure is simple, and above all, it's cheap
*Kalashnikov
This type of arbitrary business seriously disturbs me.
Where do you think you are? Mogadishu*?
But you, you dare sell real Kalashnikovs for $200!
I sell copies manufactured in Romania, for $1000...
*CAPITAL OF SOMALIA AND AN OLD ITALIAN COLONY. DUE TO A CIVIL WAR THAT LASTED THIRTY YEARS, IT REMAINED IN CHAOS FOR A LONG TIME. THE PRINCIPAL WEAPON IN CIRCULATION WAS THE KALASHNIKOV, SINCE IT WAS SOLD CHEAPLY.

CHAPTER 3: SPINNING
Never again will you be able to traffic guns!
Eeek!!

I'm counting on you to keep Runover company.
Kira...
EVER SINCE I AGREED TO BE THE BOSS'S RIGHT-HAND MAN, I WAS AFRAID THIS MIGHT HAPPEN...
Okay.....
Spinning Titty
You're so helpful with everybody...
Me, I don't care much for gloomy guys like him.
ANYONE WOULD BE UNCOMFORTABLE FACING SUCH A COLD PERSON...

……
SNIFF!
SNIFF!
……
SNIFF!
SNIFF!

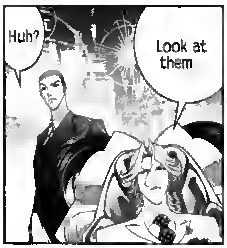
!
What
An atmo-sphere
ズゴ
ズゴ
Oh..
OOO OH!!
I wonder if this guy knows how to laugh...
……
おぉ！
ピルルッ

Did you have a nice time?

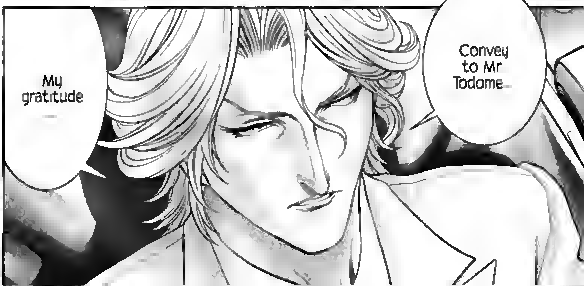
Spinning Top
Uhm...

.....

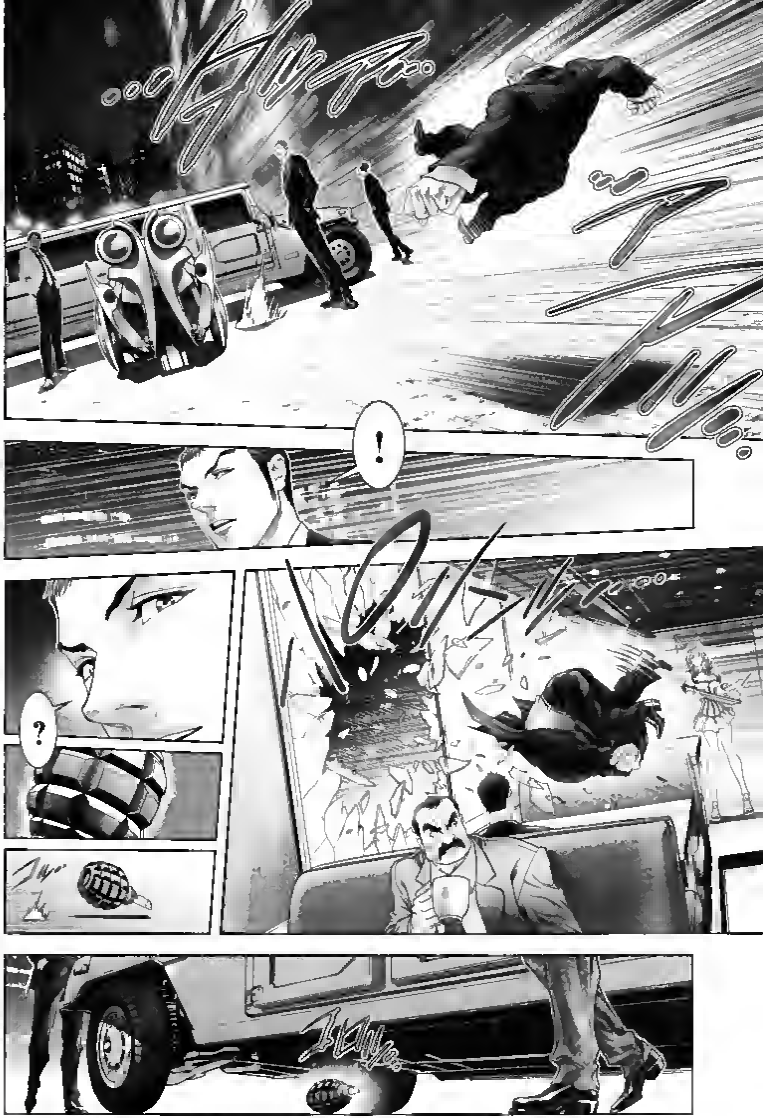
Shit I'm freaking out..


Huh?
Look at them

Sure thanks


My gratitude
Convey to Mr Todome

!
This limousine's yours?!
It's a Hummer*?
No it's a Humvee**
I received it yesterday
It's at least 10 meters long... This is ridiculous...
*A BRAND THAT BELONGED TO AMERICAN AUTO GROUP GENERAL MOTORS. ** MILITARY VEHICLE BUILT BY AMERICAN MANUFACTURER AM GENERAL
Equipped with bullet-proof glass...
And a 200 horsepower diesel engine.
It handles any terrain.
Don't you think it's made for me?
It must be hard to handle
Yeah it's clear it was made for you

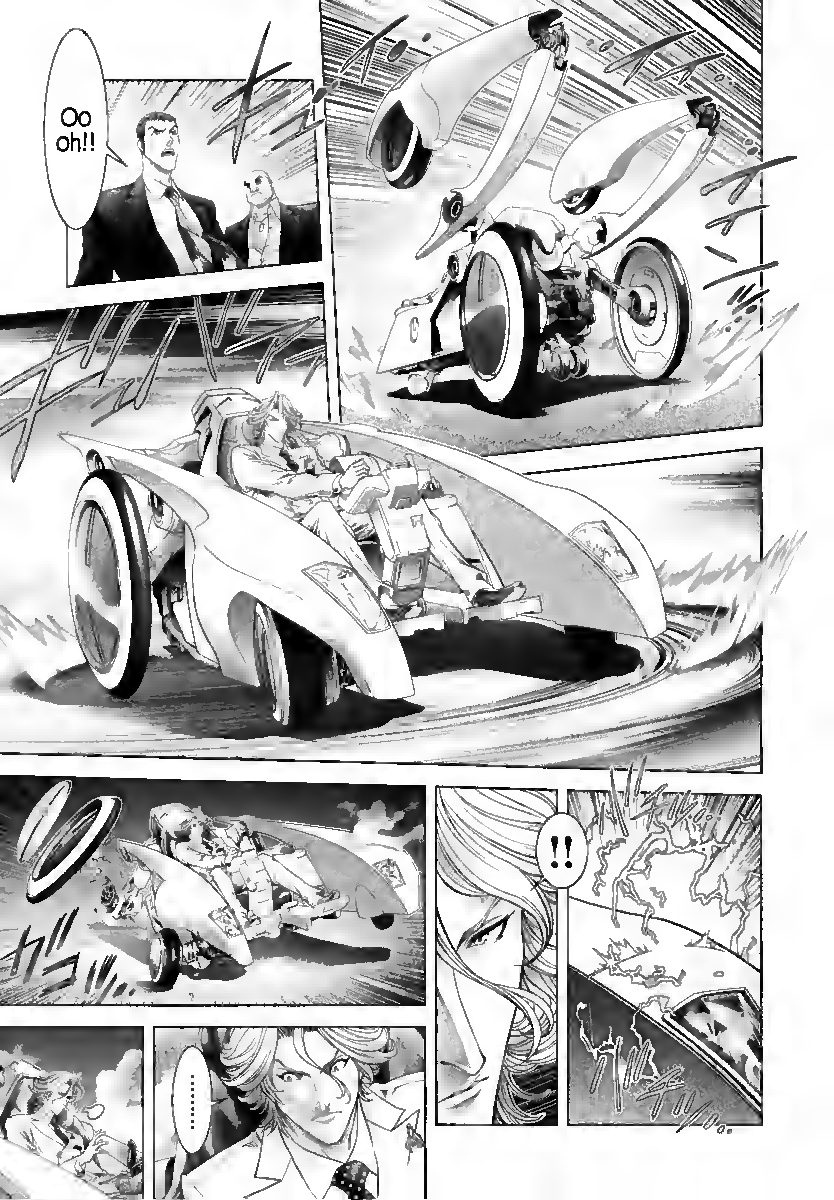


WHAT THE...?!

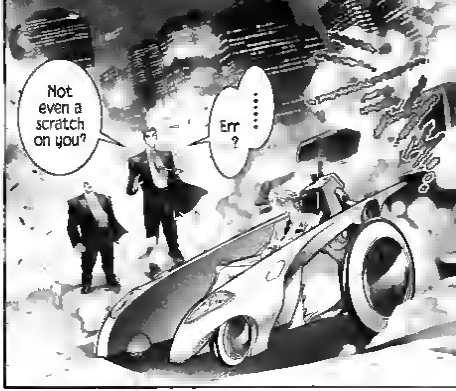
SHIT, WHAT'S THIS MESS?!

THUNK
C'MON, FIRE!
CLANG!
COUGH COUGH
SHIT!!
I thought Gah I was a goner!
COUGH... DAMMIT... COUGH...
You're alive Ah..

They wasted them all
Oh hell
!
Poor Runover...
Well I'll still pray for them..
!
Is he invincible or what?
Darn!


Oo
oh!!
!!
……

Yes ?
?


Not even a scratch on you?
Err ?
.....

You'll drive it to pursue the attackers!
And ...
Take me over to the limousine...

Capish?
You mustn't answer me with anything other than yes...
.....

I would advise you go to the hospital instead...
No ..
That's impossible!

Yes

!!

You can locate them thanks to this.
I put a tracker on their car...
But how will I find them...?
What are you doing?
?
Rest in peace my brothers...
(Fratelli, e l'eternita...)
I'LL GIVE THEM DEATH!
(Lo li do morte!)

WE GOT 'EM GOOD, 'EM WOPS!
HA HA!
Long ...
Aah ...
!!
You always gotta hit quick and avoid it takin' too long...
They absolutely didn't see it comin'!
WA AAA H!!

Yes
Crush it!
!
WHAT THE HELL'S THAT CAR?!
SHIT, HE'S STILL ALIVE!
!!
DON'T WORRY. I'LL LOSE THEM!!

But don't worry we'll be able to find them again thanks to the GPS!
Damn they got away
.....
ブロロロロ...
.....
JUMP!!
mp
?
Come again?

!
What did you say?
What...
Remember.. You mustn't answer me with anything other than yes...
Y...
YES !!!

It reminds me of somethin ...
It
The CDs are spinnin ...
What is it already?
It spins
It spins
!!
I know!!
I WANNA GO HOME...
I WANNA GO HOME!
GO ON!!

I WANNA GO HOME AND SLEEP WITH A WOMAN!!
A pizza!
I-I'm still alive!
HAA! HAA!

This guy...
He survived
No Kin wouldn't have the guts to attack me...
Did Kin send you?
You Korean
Or Chinese?
So they're Parks men then
!!
Shit...
Are Kalashnikovs from Russia...
The guns they use...

YOU'VE DECLARED WAR ON US! YOU'RE ALL DEAD, YA BUNCH OF WOPS!
YOU'VE NO CHANCE OF WINNIN'!!
!
YOU'LL PAY FOR HAVIN' KILLED IL-MYONG!!
War you say?
.....
Heh!
He he he!
"Next time let's make war without the Italians."
Do you know the joke that Germans often tell Japanese?
HA!
HA HA HA!
Apparently, Italians are considered impotent
When it comes to a petty quarrel..."
That "Italians are weak when it comes to a large war but strong
And that's not all. They also say...
Where do you see "Italians"?
Me. I'm a Neapolitan.
?
!?
In reality "Italians" don't exist in this world.
But you know.....

Nobody considers themselves Italian.
Milanese, Romans, Florentines, Perugians...
It was foreigners who named us so
You think Lucky Luciano* was Italian?
Well no, he was Sicilian
We fight solely for our family and glory.
Italy means nothing to us.
Uh... Well...
*CHARLES "LUCKY" LUCIANO (1897–1962), CONSIDERED TO BE THE FATHER OF THE ITALIAN MAFIA IN THE UNITED STATES.
When it came to fighting for the family!
No...
Is that the Sione clan has never lost...
In any case, what's certain...
IT'S INDEED A WAR!
You're right about one thing...
Toni, Cicco, Salu...
All those guys you killed belonged to my family...
That said...

Oh shit...
Hurry up
I don't like to dawdle
Well..
Let's pay Park a little visit.
What should you answer me already?
.....
You ought to replace me with one of your relatives.
Uhh... But I remind you...
That I'm not a part of your family..
Huh?!
I feel like I'm going to have a rotten evening...
That's more like it
ANYBODY WOULD BE UNCOMFORTABLE FACING SUCH A COLD PERSON...
Yes!
Let's go, Kira.
SINCE THE DAY I AGREED TO BE THE BOSS'S RIGHT-HAND MAN, I HAD A BAD FEELING...

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BLACK JOKE

by KOIKE Rintarou and TAGUCHI Masayuki

If you like this manga please support its creators by buying a copy of the original work.

Black Joke ch 4

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CHAPTER 4
SPINNING (2)

Are you involved with Park?
No, we've never had any dealings with him.
That dirty North Korean spy...
Tried to compete with us in arms trafficking by buying them from the Russians.

Last week, we surprised one of his men who was selling AKs...
So we inflicted a LITTLE punishment, and now they attack us...
Good... Do nothing. I'm coming
We discovered where Park's hiding.
He's in that building...

I hope he's not counting on us to help him ...
How'll he do without his super chair?
He intends to take care of it himself?
"Do nothing"?

!?
Huh?
Can you get it out for me?
There's a spare chair in the trunk ..

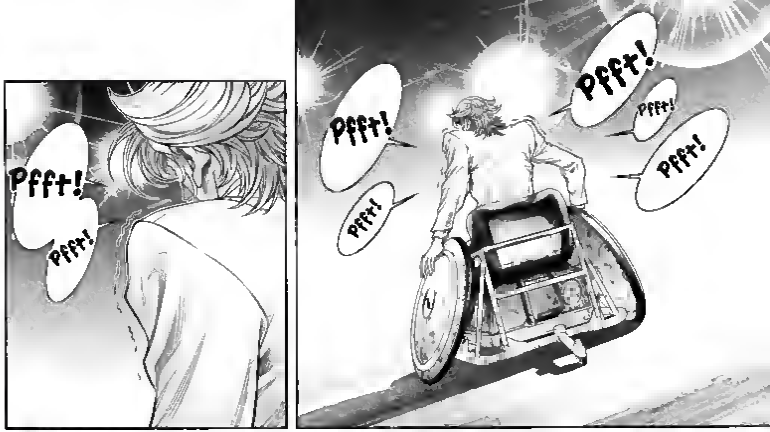
!
Do you know why they call me "RUNOVER"?

At first glance, it resembles a race wheelchair, but...
He intends to fight with that?!

One of your men betrayed you and tried to kill you with a bomb...
Uhh Well...
You survived, but you found yourself paralyzed in the legs.
Huh?
Hmm?
Then ...
You pursued this traitor, who'd fled in his Ferrari..
With your super wheelchair ...

AND YOU SENT HIM TO HELL, ALONG WITH HIS CAR.
Something like that, right?

Damn, maybe I made him angry!



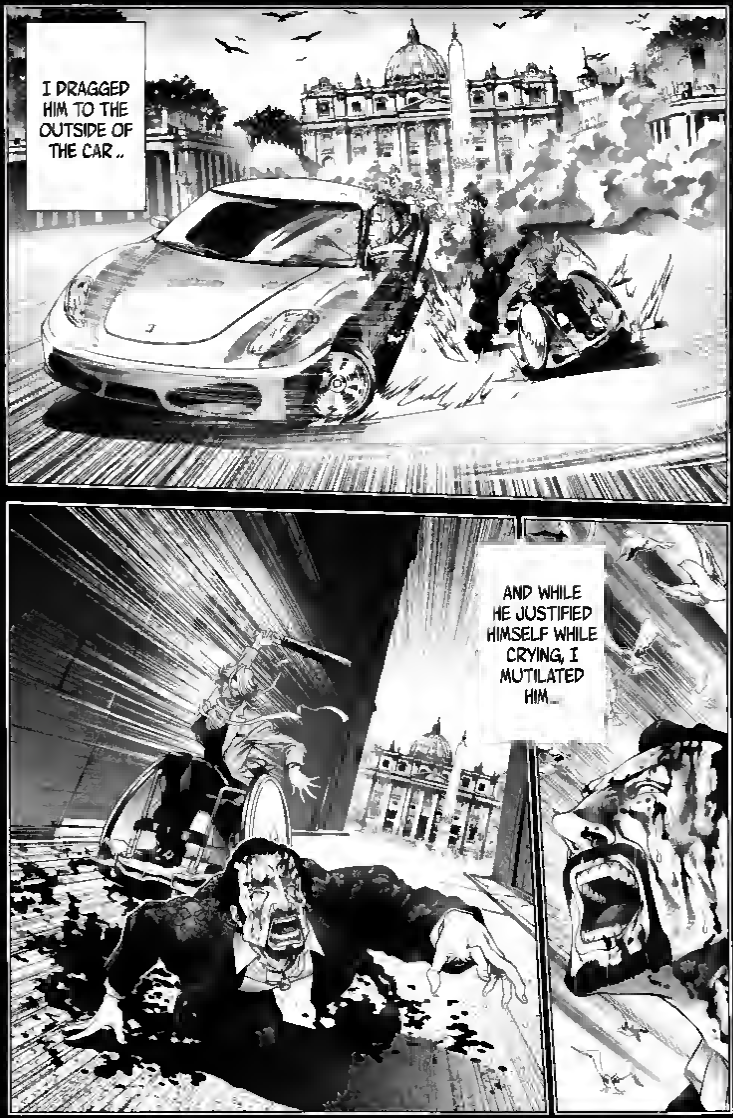
T/N: Pfft!" sounds of supressed laughter

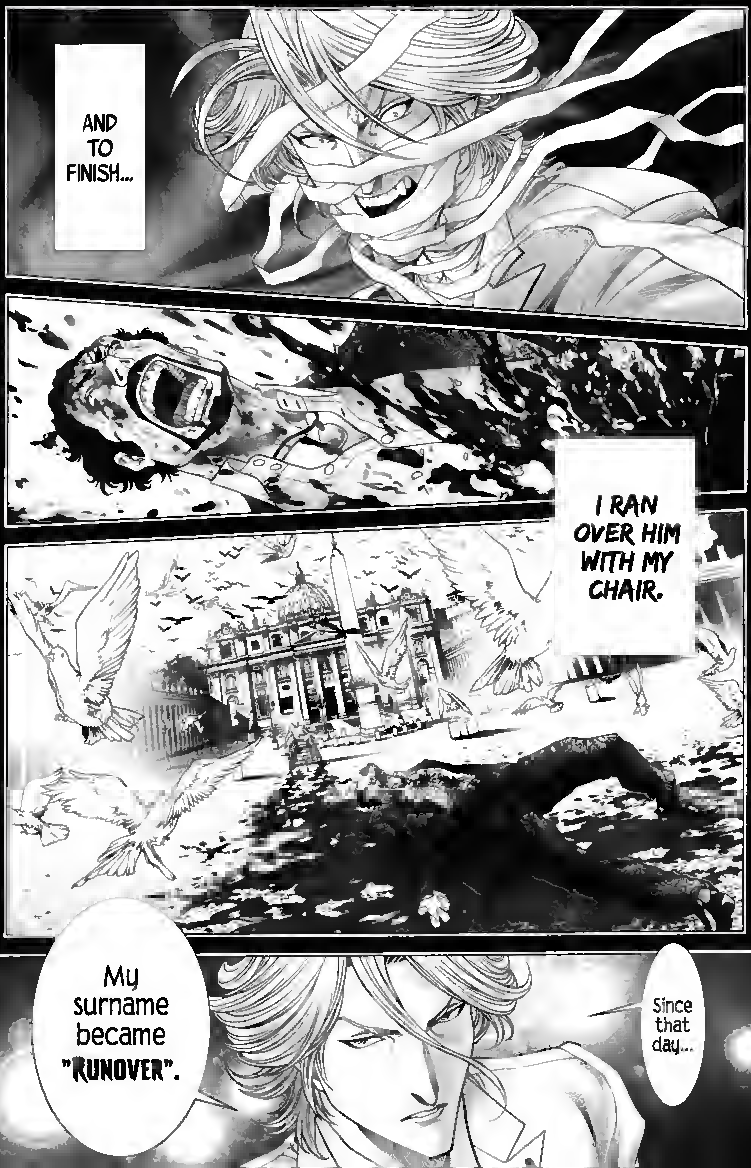
Wasn't as sophisti-cated.
The chair I used back then...
This is my very first wheel-chair.
He's spinnin' around...

.....
WHEN I FOUND MYSELF IN THAT STATE...
EVERYONE DISTANCED THEMSELVES FROM ME, THINKING THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY HOPE.
There was *even* one who laughed
.....
THE ONE WHO SET ME UP...

BRUNO TATTALIA
a poor, worthless guy.
THINKING HE'D KILLED ME...
CERTAIN-LY FELT SAFE.
AND THEN, THAT DAY CAME...

!!
BRUNO SHOWED UP TO CHURCH FOR SUNDAY MASS IN HIS FERRARI.
I'D WAITED FOR HIM IN FRONT OF THE ENTRANCE ...


I DRAGGED HIM TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE CAR..
AND WHILE HE JUSTIFIED HIMSELF WHILE CRYING, I MUTILATED HIM...


AND TO FINISH...
I RAN OVER HIM WITH MY CHAIR.
Since that day...
My surname became "RUNOVER".

Since then, nobody else has laughed at me.
.....
With that chair ...?
That a joke ?!
No Not at all...
Me ...?!
Even those who doubted my strength like you.
I'll show you how to command respect.
Ah...
Y... Yes
I'll show you what I'm capable of.
It doesn't matter... Follow me.
.....
ギュルルル!!

Glug glug...
平和商事
It's alright. Ganho did good work then!
I WOULD'VE LIKED TO HAVE SHOWN IT TO YOU, MR. PARK!
The Italians truly died in the explosion.
We were 100 meters away from them, and we witnessed everything...

I hope you weren't followed...
And ...
Hmm ...
It's our fightin' spirit that allowed us to off all 'em wops!
After the explosion, we left in the opposite direction from Ganho.
Don't worry about a thing! It's impossible for them to locate us.
SO LET'S TOAST TO RUNOVER'S DEATH!!
Hmm?

!!
Run...
Run-
over
...

This place isn't even adapted for the disabled!
!
Heh!
'Cause I don't want to be involved.
Will he really be able to face them?
YOU'RE GONNA REGRET COMIN' HERE, DIE!!

Ahh
...
WAAAAH!

UGH!!
.....
He's spinnin' again...
Ahh...

Again and again !!

AARGH!

Park...
!!
GWAAAAH!
UGH...
You deserve to die in pain!
Nooo...
UH...
WAAH...

WAAH!
AAAAAAH
.....
Smashed!
Hey...
This guy's really a monster!
What butchery!

How will you recount what happened tonight?
Uhh, yes...?
Uhh...
I dunno ...
Huh? How?
You can say what-ever you like.
But on one condition ...
That it be as funny as the Ferrari story.
Pfft!
Pfft!
Pfft!
Pfft!
No...
Don't tell me he was laughing just now ?!

We had the worst evening ever!

Damn ...
ブロロロ

That guy... Run-over...
.....

Run-over...
.....

Kodama, you going to take care of telling his story?
Oh...

He liked to spin around...
What the hell are you saying?!
?

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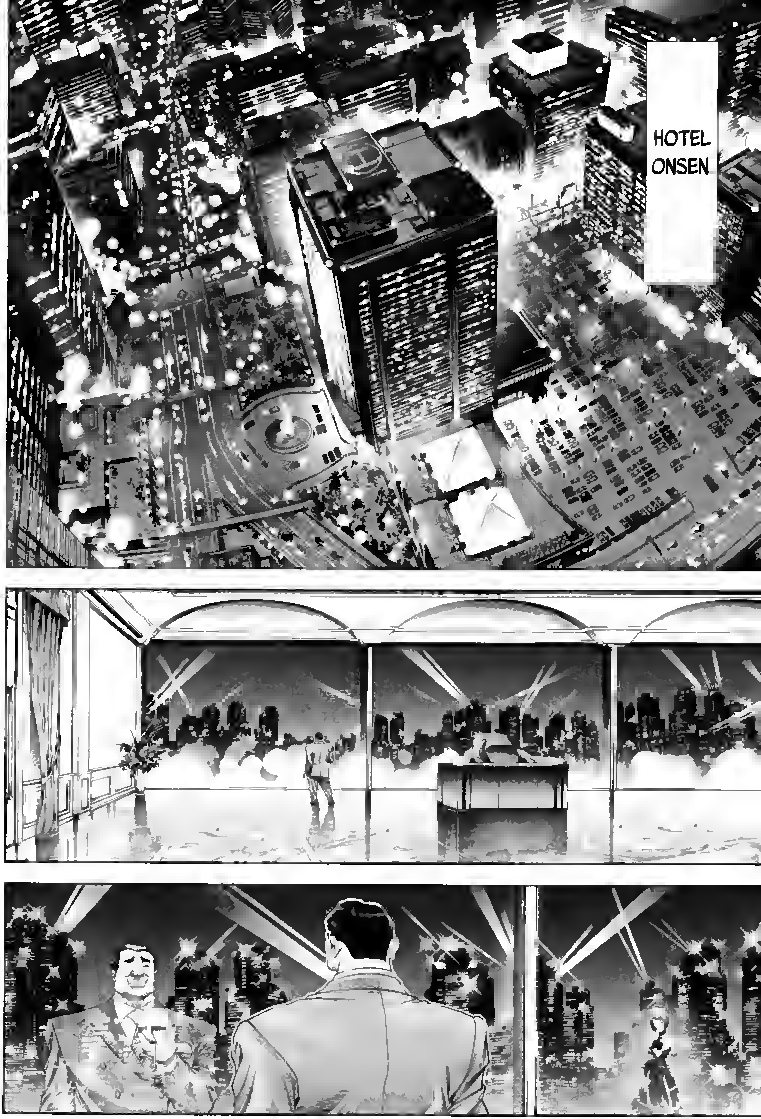
VOL.5: DEBONING


HOTEL
ONSEN

はぁぁ…
ケイッ!!…
Akari…
……
When I gaze at these neon lights…
I have an irresistible urge to have a heart-to-heart talk with someone, don't you?

AKARI
KUROKI
(25 YEARS OLD)
No...
A pity

Tell me, Mr. Kira.
Hmm?
Can I come sleep over tomorrow too?
Yes...
.....

Of course.
For what?
Sorry for last night...
I was brazen to have asked you...
If I could sleep over at your place today.
You looked so embarrassed.
Huh?
But *not* because I didn't want to.
It's true that I was

!
On the contrary, your request made me very happy.
That's why I was embar-rassed.
But I felt bad for feeling that way when I don't even know if I deserve you...
Mr. Kira..
.....

With pleasure
Kiss me! ♥
!?
What the hell?!
No, not him!

Kuma!
MASAMI KUMAGIRI
(49 YEARS OLD)

I'm sorry Mr. Kumagin...

.....
Huh?!
Well, ain't *you* lucky to be so well accompanied first thing in the morning...

You're the one at fault!
What ?!
So you re-imburse my repair fees!
I'll have to make out a bill to your hotel...
Well...

YOU... YOU AREN'T HURT ARE YOU, MR. KIRA?

Huh, Kira?!
You don't even know how to educate a woman.

I'm sorry, sir...

.....

Heh...
I'll take care of calling a tow for your car, Mr. Kumagiri.
You are welcome to come by our hotel anytime...
You were lucky!
Mutter!
Mr. Kira...
Tell me...

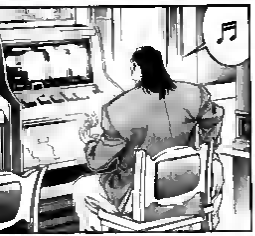
Actually
Which gang does that guy belong to?
He doesn't look like he has much class...
.....
He's with the police.
Oooh ...♫
What?!
HOTEL ONSEN.

This is so exiting!
I'm ashamed
Pack of Mafia!
You take advantage of people's desires, to make some dough, while we public servants bust our asses.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HEY!

!!

!?
Sorry for this incident.



Oh, very well.
Here are two VIP seats for tonight's match...
Please accept our apologies.

OK.
Is the F5 screen on?
Yeah, it's Kira...

SALON
This hotel's machines are really shitty!!
Pfft!

I was requesting the go-ahead from the boss to serve you a meal.
Who you calling over there, huh?!
Hey!

How about a game of cards while waiting? You won't regret it!
♥
Since we still have a little time ahead of us...
Of course, sir
SALON
Oh, excellent! But I ain't knocking anything off the repairs fees

Huh?
Can you move away for just a moment ?
!
Ah!
!!
?

Il piacere è stato mio, Signorina Sofia.
(The pleasure was all mine Ms. Sophia.)
Mi sono proprio divertita, mio caro Kira.
(Thank you my dear Kira. I'm having a lot of fun)
Ma Guarda.
(Here)
Aah. I see...

So you're this casino's high-class call girl, huh?!
AAAAH!

LET HER GO, KUMA!!

So Kira's interested in your money, huh?
Say, you're wearing expensive trinkets!

!!
MR. KIRA!
So you're losing your cool, eh, Kira?!
Heh...

You pissed 'cause I touched your chick?
You afraid she won't give you any more money...
!

That was the boss The meal's ready
Hey! Don't take calls when I'm talking to you!
Yes... Alright.
Oh!

So we going, Kira?
Don't worry, my dear Kira. And you? Are you alright?
Sorry about this incident...
I'm counting on you for the rest
Uuh.
Will it be okay?

Welcome!
I'm delighted to receive you, Inspector Kumagiri.
I don't know whether these dishes will suit your taste...
But our chefs put a lot of heart into preparing them.
Heh, you pieces of trash, you're all so polite! Eh, Kira?

I bet they're your secretaries and your mistresses. Ain't that right, Todome?!
You got some hot babes here! They look pretty slutty!
Indeed, Inspector Kumagiri.

Hmm?

Ah...
Inspector Kumagiri, that girl's...
This is what you'd call a Lolita, right?
I didn't know you had such tastes...
Ooh... This is interesting...

.....
Too bad for him, eh, Kira?

WHAT?!

Hey, you flat-chested girl...
How old are you, huh?

That girl isn't my secretary, but my bodyguard.
You disgust me...
WAAAH! AAH!!
I'LL DO EVERYTHING TO CRUSH THIS CASINO, ON BEHALF OF THE TOKYO POLICE!!
YOU'RE ALL GONNA REGRET DOING THAT!
HAA! HAA! HAA! HAA! HAA!
I'm going to show you something.
!?
WHAT?!
That seems a little difficult to me, Mr Kumagin.
I'm sorry, but..

F5モニター
You know the Stone family, don't you?
Here on Neon Island, it's Runover who's boss...
The so-called "high-class call girl" you laid hands on just now is, in reality, the fiancée of Mr. Corado, Runover's right-hand man.

How would he react in your opinion, if he sees this...?
The Tokyo Police have no intention of going to war with those people, I take it!

KI... KIRA... YOU FUCKIN' BASTARD, YOU...

What?!
Wh...
.....
Huh?

!!
Aargh!
AAAAH!!
Oooh!
Whoa!

Ugh...
Bh...
Bha?
He...
.....
He re-minds me of some-thin...
What's...

!!

!

Huh?

Yes.
.....

He looks like a turtle!!

Well...
Pfft...
I'll take care of the rest! ♥
You can leave us ladies and gentlemen!
Sorry for causing you to worry just now.
Yeah.
Huh? To-night?
And me...
Uhh ....
turtle, right?
O.K.! Of course! ♡
Yes!

Hmm?
Call a doctor ...
A doctor ...
.....
Don't panic, Inspector Kumagiri. Come on, sit down and make the most of this feast.
Pweaze...
A doctor ...
.....

I think it's too late, isn't it?
To be able to taste such cuisine for your final meal.
In any case, you ought to be happy...
Argh...
Uh...
But you know... I can't reveal too much of my private life to them. I find it unbefitting of a leader.
As you see, I'm the boss of an organization
Everyone does really good work.
With whom I could have a heart-to-heart!
Plus, it works out well. I was looking for a conversationalist...

Uh...
I can speak freely to a person who's about to die soon.
At least nothing will leave this room!
But on the other hand...
Let's see, what could I start with... ♥
Argh.. ☠

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BLACK JOKE

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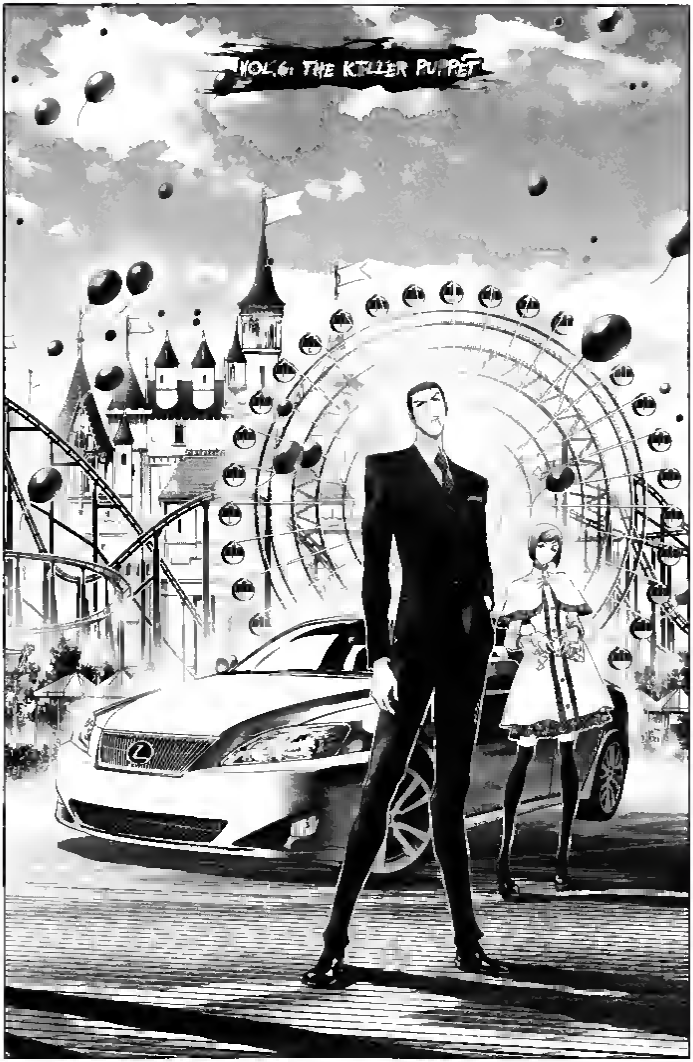
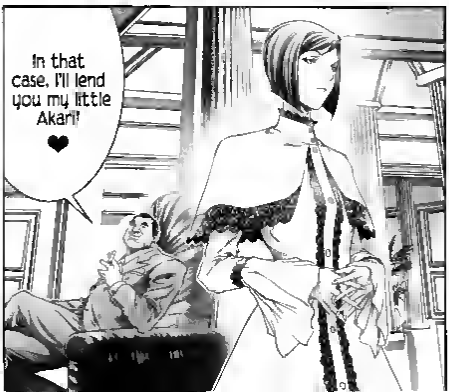

VOL.01 THE KILLER PUPPET

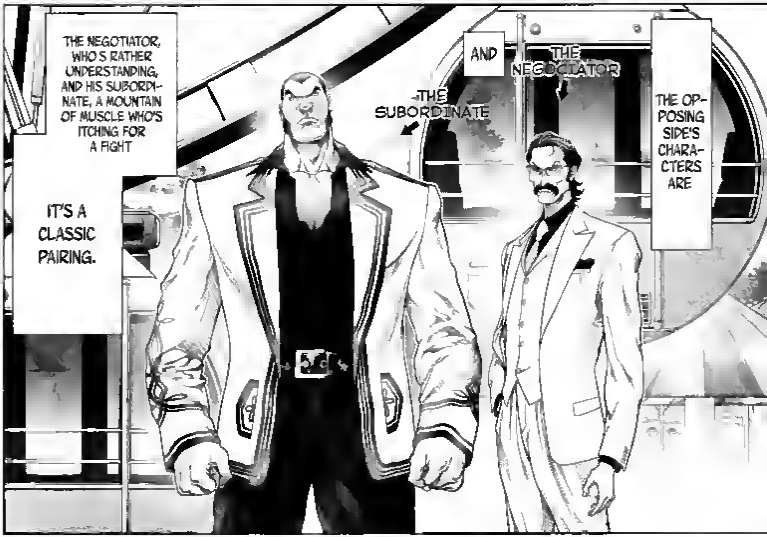
Kira, my dear...
We have a little problem with the merchandise we've been keeping...
In the secret room.
.....
They owe us the commission and additional fees for failing to meet the deadline, right?
You're going to have to go negotiate with the Spanish Mafia.
Who will I take with me?
It might be a forced negotiation...
I prefer to confiscate it for breach of contract.
Well, yes...
But since the drug will bring us a lot of money...

'CAUSE KODAMA IS ON ANOTHER MISSION RIGHT NOW...
Aah... Without him, it won't be very reassuring...

Huh?

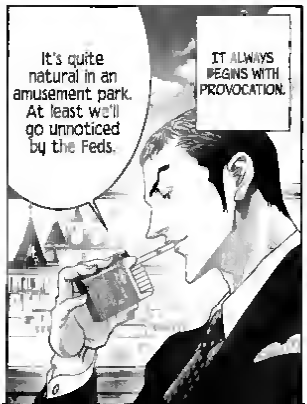

In that case, I'll lend you my little Akari!

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MAFIA ARE CARRIED OUT IN PAIRS. IT'S KIND OF AN IMPROVISED SCENE.
...Akari?


THE NEGOTIATOR, WHO'S RATHER UNDERSTANDING, AND HIS SUBORDINATE, A MOUNTAIN OF MUSCLE WHO'S ITCHING FOR A FIGHT
IT'S A CLASSIC PAIRING.
THE SUBORDINATE
AND
THE NEGOCIATOR
THE OPPOSING SIDE'S CHARACTERS ARE

WITH ME, IN THE ROLE OF NEGOTIATOR, AND A GOTHIC LOLITA, AS SUBORDINATE
THE NEGOCIATOR
WE FORM A SLIGHTLY OFFBEAT COUPLE...
AS FOR US...
THE SUBORDINATE

THIS LITTLE PRODUCTION IS UNSCRIPTED, BUT A FUNDAMENTAL RULE EXISTS:
THE TWO CAMPS MUST FIND A COMPROMISE WITHOUT ANYONE DYING.
IF THEY KILL EACH ANOTHER, BOTH PARTIES WILL BE CONSIDERED LOSERS.
THAT'S WHY WE CAN NEGOTIATE WHILE THREATENING, BUT WITHOUT EVER CROSSING THE LINE.
EVERYTHING THEN DEPENDS ON THE NEGOTIATOR'S ABILITY.
THIS TIME AROUND, THE ASSIGNMENT MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE FERRIS WHEEL COMPLETES A TURN.


It's quite natural in an amusement park. At least we'll go unnoticed by the Feds.
IT ALWAYS BEGINS WITH PROVOCATION.

What possessed ju to c'mere with a muchacha?
WELL THEN, LET'S SEE HOW THIS PLAYS OUT...

But we have nothing to talk about. You just have to pay what you owe us.
Talk?
BUT I WON'T LET MYSELF BE INTIMIDATED
WE CAME TO TALK AMONG HOMBRES. WE DON'T NEED NO CHICAS HERE!
THIS IS HOW HE PLANS TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE
If that chica spreads her legs and smiles at me, I'll give ju 5 bucks!
Fuck...
STEPPING IN LIKE THIS AND SPEAKING WITH DIGNITY IS THE NEGOTIATOR'S ROLE.
I apologize for his rudeness This guy loses control as soon as he gets worked up
!
Calm down, Albaro.

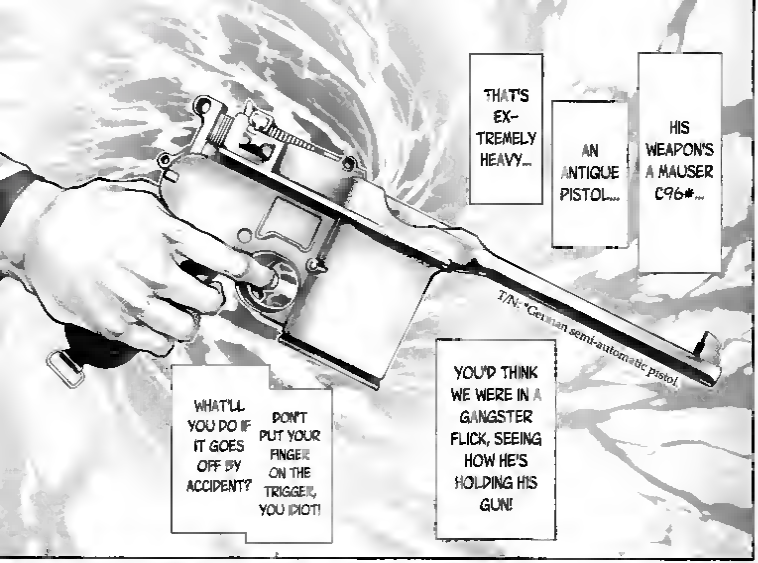
I CAN'T STAND HORNY BASTARDS! HOW CAN WE TRUST A GUY WHO BRINGS ALONG A CHICA IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS?!
HE KEEPS UP THIS LITTLE GAME TO THROW ME OFF BALANCE AND HINDER MY ABILITY TO THINK.
NO ORIGINALITY IT'S SO TRANSPARENT!
TO SHOW THEM THAT THIS KIND OF PLAYACTING DOESN'T WORK WITH ME...
I HAVE TO COMPLETELY IGNORE THE SUBORDI-NATE.
!!
!
HEY, I'M TALKIN' TO U...!
Listen up.
I didn't come to take part in some gay fiesta.
Cough up the commission and additional fees pronto.
Or you'll never see your merchandise again. Get the money together or you'll lose everything!
.....
I apologize for his tactless-ness...

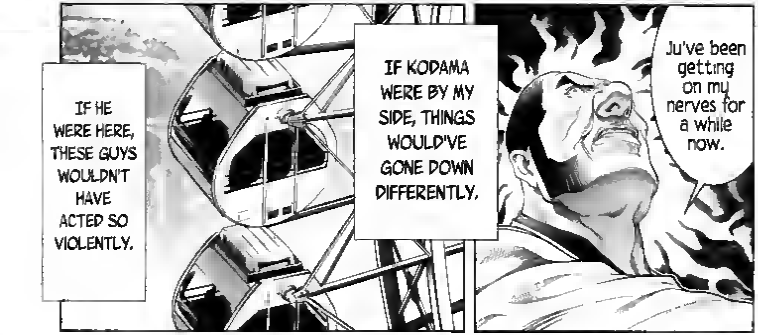
But, Señor Kira...
If I'm not mistaken, we only owe you the $20,000 after you've handed over our merchandise.
.....
I'M STARTING TO TIRE OF THEIR LITTLE GAME.
Listen carefully..
WE'VE ONLY BEEN GOING IN CIRCLES SO FAR...
I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT!
Don't make me repeat myself You've already missed the deadline
So you owe us twenty grand and another twenty for prolonging the contract
If you don't pay up right here, you can kiss your merchandise goodbye.

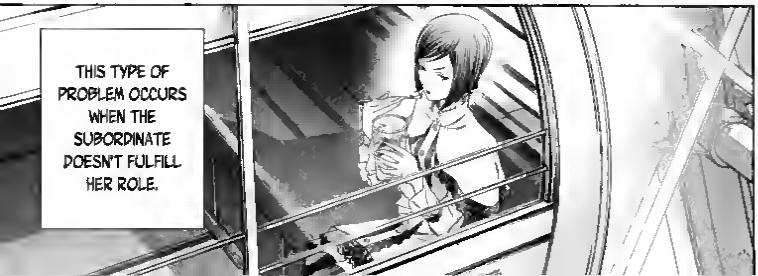
Señor, show good faith towards your customers during a negotiation at least
FUCK OFF! THAT MERCHANDISE IS WORTH $250,000! COMPRENDE?!
If you're customers...

CASE CLOSED.
THEN PAY UP!!

IT'S OVER.
EVERYTHING AFTER THIS DEPENDS ON HOW THEY REACT, BUT...
Hey!
!!
If ju continue to show off... I'll pull the trigger.
THEY'RE COMPLETE AMATEURS...
DON'T THEY GET THAT THERE'S NO POINT IN KILLING EACH OTHER?


THAT'S EXTREMELY HEAVY...
AN ANTIQUE PISTOL...
HIS WEAPON'S A MAUSER C96*...
T/N: *German semi-automatic pistol.
YOU'D THINK WE WERE IN A GANGSTER FLICK, SEEING HOW HE'S HOLDING HIS GUN!
WHAT'LL YOU DO IF IT GOES OFF BY ACCIDENT?
DON'T PUT YOUR FINGER ON THE TRIGGER, YOU IDIOT!


IF HE WERE HERE, THESE GUYS WOULDN'T HAVE ACTED SO VIOLENTLY.
IF KODAMA WERE BY MY SIDE, THINGS WOULD'VE GONE DOWN DIFFERENTLY.
Ju've been getting on my nerves for a while now.


THIS TYPE OF PROBLEM OCCURS WHEN THE SUBORDINATE DOESN'T FULFILL HER ROLE.

.....
AKARI.
IN OTHER WORDS -
IN THESE SITUATIONS, YOU HAVE TO REASON WITH HIM.
PRESENT TO HIM FACTS THAT WILL PERSUADE HIM.
IN ANY CASE, THE ONE WHO DRAWS HIS WEAPON, WON'T HOLSTER IT RIGHT AWAY.
!
We're going to reach the bottom soon, you know.
Are you *really* able to fire in the middle of the afternoon in an amusement park? How will you get away?
.....
If he fires, you'll never see your merchandise again! How will you explain it to him?
What're you going to tell your boss, Garcia?

Ugh...
!!
UH...

UH...
WAAAAH!!
WAAH!!

Is this business settled ?
So...
HOTEL ONSEN
Good work. ♥
Good ♥
Yes, and we've even found buyers.
She's beyond danger-ous
Yes? She's efficient, isn't she?
That girl, Akari Kuroki...
Boss ...
What hap-pened?

She fractured the fingers of the guy who was preparing to fire at me, and she plucked out his eyeball
Like *this* with a *teaspoon*
If I'd brought Kodama along, we could've settled this matter peacefully
Ah yes, ha ha ha...
They certainly won't sit around twiddling their thumbs after this

It's done. This hotel's elevators are easy to hack.
Click!
Click!
LOVE AND WAR

From here on out, we can directly access Todome's office!

.....
Akari's quite tough, isn't she?
Hehe
Yeah

During a negotiation, it's essential that you bring someone who looks tough
But since it's concerning your bodyguard I'll give you a piece of advice, Boss
.....
.....

BUT RATHER A STRONG PRESENCE THAT'S ABLE TO DETER ONE'S ENEMIES.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT FOR A BODYGUARD, ISN'T HIS ABILITY TO KILL...

Kodama certainly does have a certain presence...
I see...
So even if Akari's awfully skilled...
If that isn't readily apparent to the eyes of the enemy, then she's useless as a bodyguard
You make a good point.....
You know, that girl...
Underwent training as an assassin.
She was raised among a family of killers.
She's mastered many martial arts and numerous assassination techniques.
Knives, shuriken, poisons, etc...
...?

.....
Is she a ninja or what?!

THAT'S THE REASON I RECRUITED HER
As soon as the doors open fire on anything that moves!
CHARGED WITH MY PROTECTION, IN EVERY SITUATION, SHE PUTS HERSELF IN THE KILLERS' SHOES AND THINKS ABOUT THE WAY THEY'LL GO ABOUT KILLING ME...

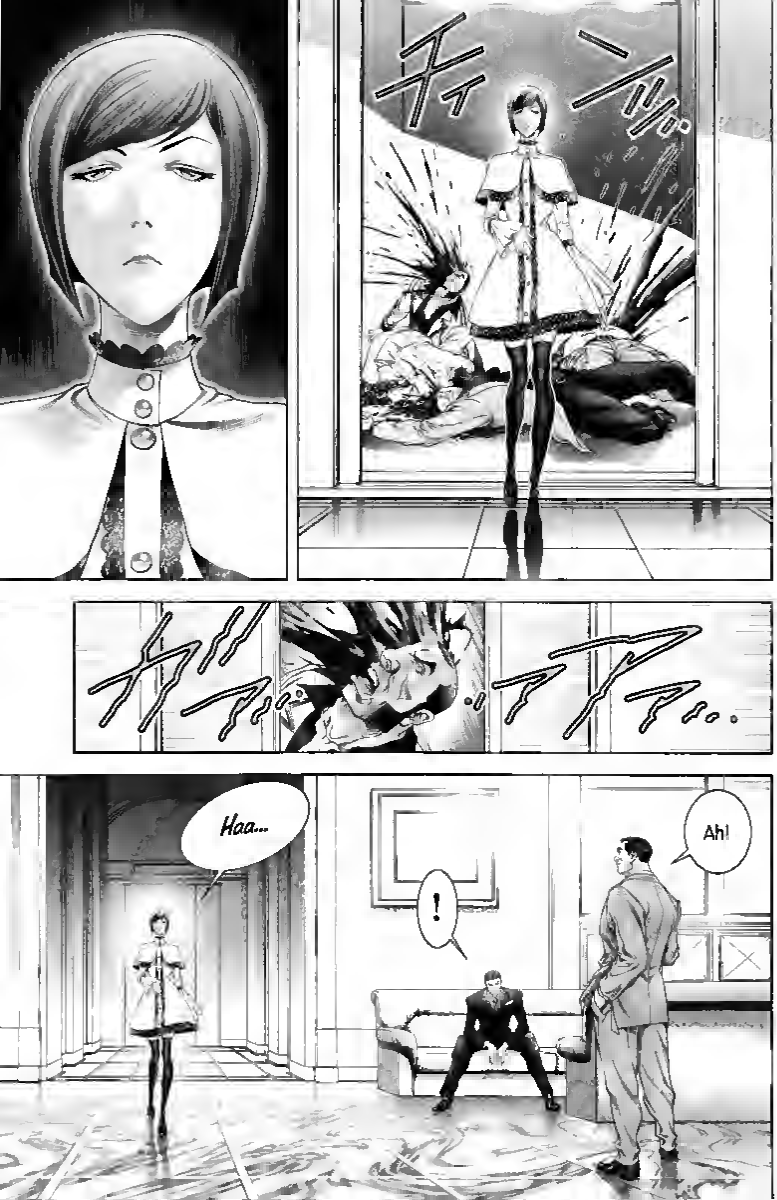
THAT'S HOW SHE ELIMINATES, ONE-BY-ONE, THE DANGERS AROUND ME
FOR ME, SHE PERFECTLY FULFILLS HER ROLE AS A BODY-GUARD.

YOU...
LOVE AND WAR

ハァ…

ズガ…ン!!

カ!!!…


チィーン…
ア…ア…ア…
Haa...
!
Ah!

What were you doing, Akari?
.....
My job.

キャラクター誕生秘話／吉良編

by小池倫太郎

田口「倫ちゃん、この主役の男の名前は?」
小池「唐沢…というのはどーでしょ?」
田口「カラサワ……。ちょっとピンと来ないかなー?」
小池「うーん、じゃあ吉良とか…」
田口「キラ……。なんかもう少し変わった名前はどうなの? もっとインパクトある名前」
小池「吉良って、僕のイメージだと忠臣蔵の吉良上野介とか、こう、エリートで狡猾な
ワルっぽさがあるんですけど」
田口「おー、なるほどネー。いいかもね。キラ!」
小池「小玉の対になるタイプだし、鋭い感じがいいと思うンですよ」
田口「うんうん、キラー(殺し屋)とかキラキラした感じがするネ!」
小池「えっ? キラキラ!?(笑)」
田口「じゃあ下の名前はキヨシってどーう?
韻を踏むカンジでさ! キラ・キヨシ!」
小池「あ、そりゃ漫画っぽくていいスね」
田口「でしょう!?」

……というカンジで「吉良潔」に
名前が決定しました。
だいたいキャラの名前は
こんな風に決まっていきます。

■ヤングチャンピオン・コミックス■

ブラック・ジョーク①

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著　者　小池倫太郎（こいけりんたろう）・脚
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田口雅之（たぐちまさゆき）・画
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